When the Deception Moved into the Confessions of Faith

Following the course of history, we observe that with the advent of printing, the Holy Scripture became available in the languages of many nations. By studying it, people began to open their eyes, forcing Satan to find other solutions to deceive man.

Satan was forced to use the Word of Scripture, which he arranged in such a way as to continue to provide cheap tickets to heaven. He brought man an incomplete Gospel through which he managed to deceive, besides Orthodox and Catholics, other multitudes of people. Thus new teachings appeared, all based on the doctrine of forgiveness of sins.

We must note that Satan's main objective was to establish as many religious movements as possible, with as varied teachings as possible, to provide as cheap tickets to heaven as possible and thus catch as many people in his net.

The so-called Reformation of Luther in the 16th century was a first great offer, through which he convinced the ignorant man that he can obtain salvation "just by mentally believing in the Lord's sacrifice." So man no longer needs to pay indulgences, alms, because someone else paid for him, that being Lord Jesus.

Man was deceived that salvation is reduced only to the forgiveness of sins, this being obtained for free by believing in the sacrifice on the cross, without the payment of indulgences, without the need for works of faith.

As for God's plan to bring us to the stature of the fullness of Christ, to perfection, this was kept hidden from the eyes of people.

Then, as time passed, man knew more and more of the Holy Scripture and could no longer be deceived as easily, so Satan added other offers with "increasingly diversified biblical teachings" on the foundation of which many other religious organizations were formed. These worldwide organizations, having "distinct teachings" from one another, did not modify the "doctrine of forgiveness of sins," with which he deceived the world. We can easily note this if we examine their confessions of faith.

The "more distinct" teachings that differentiate one organization from another have no connection with God's plan, which aims to reach the stature of the fullness of Christ.

God's plan, in which it is foreseen that we all reach the stature of the fullness of Christ, has remained well hidden so that man cannot find the path to perfection. Anyone who looks closely can easily observe that these religious movements, spread all over the

world, have an institutionalized organizational system aimed solely at worship, with spiritual fathers being nonexistent. (For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. 1 Corinthians 4:15)

Satan has done everything possible and has succeeded in hiding well the true plan of God. Due to these “so many denominational teachings” that are brought to us, most of us remain in major confusion regarding the life of discipleship that is provided for in the plan of salvation.

Thus, Satan has achieved his goal through the multitude of “religious supermarkets” spread all over the world, which are based only on religious education, thus keeping man away from the real life of discipleship.

Let us sincerely ask ourselves: Is this God’s plan? To pay indulgences or to bring offerings or to keep a day? Is this God’s purpose? Does He want us to utter a few words in another language, to chase after miracles, or to pronounce the name Jehovah and to search the end times?

Whoever has open eyes will see that these teachings are actually meant to keep us away from the true calling, that of living a life of discipleship to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The failure of the incomplete Gospel

Today we can see crowds of people who say that decades ago they were “born again” and who do not even think that they must reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

This grave deception, which will cost them their lives, happens because God’s plan of salvation for them has been limited only to a form of godliness and the forgiveness of sins.

They have been deceived by Satan that the life of a “born again” Christian is characterized by falling, repentance, confession, and again falling into the same sin or sins, and so it will be until the moment of death. And this happens because we are taught that it is not possible for sin to be overcome and in the end, the righteousness of Lord Jesus will be attributed to us.

Many pray to God to overcome a certain sin or more sins (slander, anger, idle words...), and the second or third day, they find that they are again overcome by them. Because in their Christian life they do not have victory over sin (anger, greed...), they cannot believe that it would be possible to live a life similar to that of Lord Jesus, which

would lead them to the perfection of their character.

Thus, they have come to the conclusion that this is the true life of the “born again” Christian who, in the end, will reach heaven, but not based on what he lived on earth, but based on the perfect life of the Savior which is credited to his account.

This is the status of the religious man, who preached, taught, spoke in tongues, prophesied, performed miracles, kept a day, but did not believe that God requires him to live a life of full obedience and transformation into the image of the Lord.

However, at the meeting with God, he will have a great surprise. (Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Matthew 7:22-23)

The major failure can be observed in crowds of Christians who believe they are “born again” but when they are on their deathbed, in the last hundred meters, they run to the only option offered by Satan, to the mercy of the Lord for “forgiveness of sins.” We see many tormented by the thought that they have not lived in peace with their fellow men, with their brothers in faith, and they seek them to ask for forgiveness.

The failure of this incomplete Gospel, which is limited only to the forgiveness of sins, forces them to search their minds to find sins that remain in their lives, to ask the Lord for forgiveness for them, hoping in His grace and mercy. This happens because they have not believed and have not worked to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

However, we must remind them that the “doctrine of atonement” offered by Satan, “of salvation which consists only in the forgiveness of sins,” carries with it the fear of punishment, because the Scriptures require us to be overcomers of sin. (Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life. Revelation 3:2)

Whoever has not worked to reach the measure of the stature of Christ will have this fear until he closes his eyes. Whoever accepts this deceitful offer cannot have full confidence on the day of judgment.

Only when we reach the measure of the stature of Christ will we have His love, which is perfect, and only this love casts out fear and will give us full confidence on that day. (Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love

casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:17-18)

If the religious organization or assembly (group) we are in does not implement God's plan, if it does not make disciples and does not put them in the school of Christ, with the purpose of growing them to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Lord Jesus, but is limited only to obtaining salvation through faith in the sacrifice on the cross, this organization is not from God; it is not the Body of Christ.

We must flee from such an organization that promotes Satan's project with which he has deceived the world. The church is the Body of Christ and was designed by God not to call people to religious programs, but for the growth and perfection of the saints; this is its purpose. (And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints... till we all come... unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13)

Lord Jesus warns us to search the Holy Scriptures so that we do not stray from God's truth regarding His plan, a plan that provides for the perfection of our character. (Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:48)

To not be deceived by Satan, we must understand that we are called not only to be forgiven of sins but also to grow as disciples until we reach the perfection required by the status of a brother of Lord Jesus.

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "Transformed into the Image of Christ", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.